

*In case you missed it*

# CHIEF'S UPDATE

**City Council Meeting January 10, 2023**

At the recent City Council meeting, Chief LeBaron provided the following updates:

**Community Events:** Next week, the Hermosa Beach Police Department will be hosting Coffee with a Cop on January 18th, from 7:30AM to 9AM on the Greenbelt south of Pier Avenue. The Community Police Academy is now open for signups - they will meet every Monday for 7 weeks covering topics like patrol techniques, case laws, investigations, and more. To enroll, please visit our website.

**Crimes:** New Years Eve had a lot of activity with 51 traffic stops and 12 pedestrian stops. Amongst those, 4 were arrested for DUI, and one was arrested for possession of narcotics for sale while armed with a handgun.

Through our arrests and interviews officers conduct, we are aware that criminals drive throughout South Bay looking for easy targets.





**Crimes Continued :** Preventable crimes, such as left out packages and opened garage doors, are still driving our crime rates. Other crimes are being met with our proactive enforcement. More time is being spent on arrests to better understand what motivates criminals.

The start of 2023 began with excellent investigations being conducted and resulting in criminals being taken off the streets. Using social apps, our detectives were able to detain 2 suspects for sales of narcotics. After searching them, officers learned one suspect was on probation for weapons and narcotics charges and was in possession of a large quantity of methamphetamine, a loaded semi-automatic pistol, switchblade, and U.S. currency.

In another incident, officers observed a suspicious car, and later learned that they were working for a popular ride share app. After investigating further, we learned that the driver was selling the passenger cocaine. Both were arrested, and 42 bags of cocaine and a large quantity of cash were confiscated.



**Gentle Reminders:** Hermosa Beach is a safe city but we are not immune to crime. We need to make sure to do our part like removing wallets and cell phones from cars.

We are grateful for our community and their support in calling in suspicious activities and aiding us with their technology when recording crimes. Our officers continue to be proactive and making sure all appropriate charges are being filed against individuals.

